

# FORCES are too low

of the Kremlin's enormous military budget can be devoted to arms, compared with only 45 per cent in Britain.

The balance can be redressed only if the British Government allots a substantially larger slice of the financial cake to defence spending, which the Tories claim they will do while Labour Left-wingers clamour for more reductions.

Until essential defences are refurbished, the Navy's Polaris deterrent with its improved H-bomb missiles still capable of knocking out 20 Soviet cities, remains Britain's main independent insurance against attack.

But that will function only so long as the Russians do not conclude that the British Government would be afraid to use it without American agreement, which from a President like Jimmy Carter, may not be forthcoming.

## As the threat gets bigger

### ROYAL NAVY SHIPS

TYPES	1962	1978
CARRIERS	6	1
COMMANDO SHIPS	2	2
ASSAULT SHIPS	—	2
CRUISERS	8	2
DESTROYERS	45	14
FRIGATES	81	56
SUBMARINES	51	31
MINESWEEPERS	187	38
MISCELLANEOUS	90	42
Total	470	188

Defence cuts scuppering the Navy

## Russians'

given evidence of alarming relative arms production rates.

In recent years the Russians have been producing an annual average of 2,770 tanks to America's 469, 1,090 super-sonic fighters to America's 573 and 4,990 armoured troop carriers to America's 1,556.

The graph Mr Brown has given the President of opposing forces on the North German Plain gives NATO 630,000 men, 7,000 tanks and 2,050 planes, to the Warsaw Pact's 945,500 men, 20,500 tanks and 3,525 planes.

On the fifth page of his secret report, Mr Brown tells the President: "I do not want to give the impression that the cause is hopeless. I

believe in fact that it is more hopeful today than it has been at any time in the recent past because I believe NATO is beginning to take the threat seriously and do something about it. It will take time, money, and—most importantly—leadership."

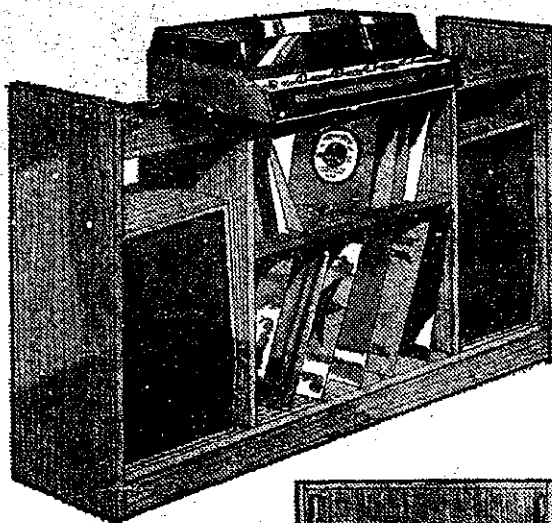
### Big question

At this point all eyes at the NATO Summit this month will be on Mr Carter.

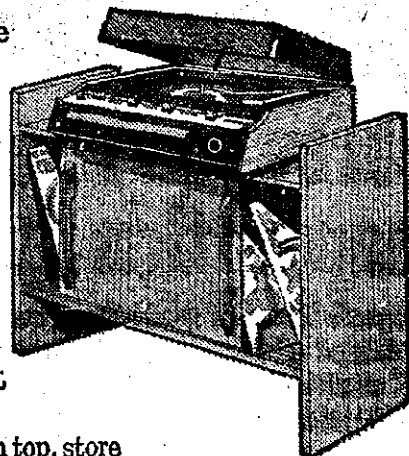
For probably the biggest question overshadowing the West as it turns to meet the Red menace is whether they can trust the grit and staunchness of the peanut farmer from Georgia.

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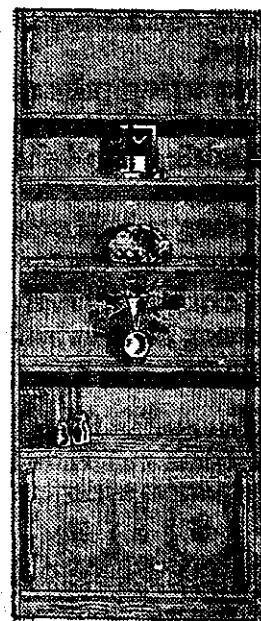


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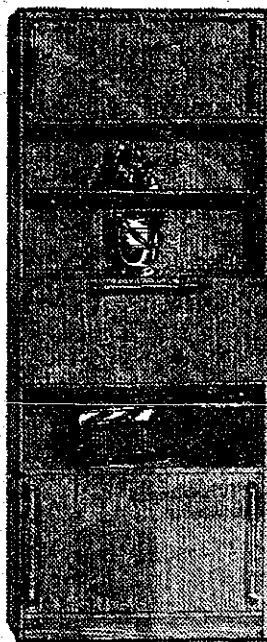
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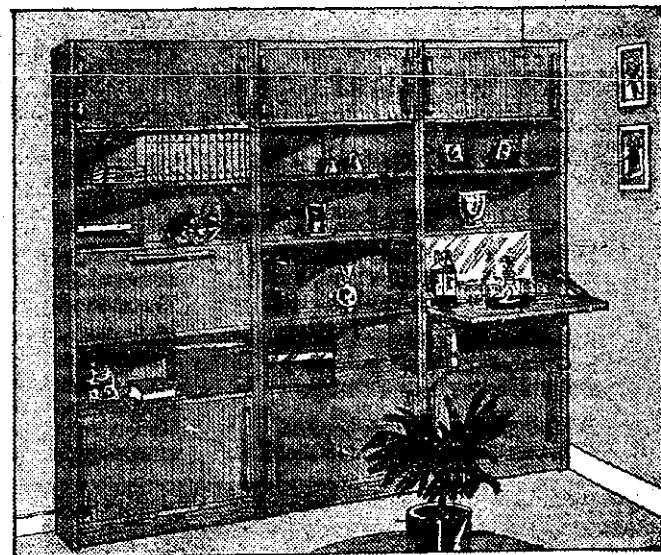


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